



**PATENT--NO FEE**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

James J. Napoli  
James J. Napoli  
Registration No. 32,361  
Attorney for Applicants

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to his duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicant hereby brings to the examiner's attention patents that may be material to the examination of the above-identified application. Therefore, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98, applicant encloses a completed Form PTO-1449 listing of the possibly pertinent patents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted more than three months after the filing date of the above-identified application, and, to applicants' knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office

Action on the merits. Therefore, under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement shall be considered by the Patent Office.

The Commissioner, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A duplicate copy of this Transmittal is enclosed herewith.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the patents not enclosed herein were provided in a prior application that applicants rely upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Copies of nonenclosed documents listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 were provided to, or cited by, the examiner of the following pending patent application:

Mario Spatafora  
Serial No. 10/142,254  
Filing Date: May 14, 2002  
Title: Method of Producing  
Soft Packets of Cigarettes

If the examiner needs a new copy of a patent listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449, applicant can provide such a copy.

Respectfully submitted,

**MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP**

By

  
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James J. Napoli

James J. Napoli  
(Registration No. 32,361)  
Attorneys for Applicants  
6300 Sears Tower  
233 South Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 474-6300

Chicago, Illinois  
October 8, 2003



Form 1449 (GPO 2002)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/145,254
				Filing Date	May 14, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Mario Satafora
				Group Art Unit	3721
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>					

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
		4,838,846	06/1989
		5,010,929	04/30/1991
		5,461,841	10/1995
		5,701,725	12/1997
		5,806,279	09/1998
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		6,286,291	09/2001
		6,324,817	12/2001
		6,470,651	10/2002
		6,557,321	05/2003

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
		EP 0 330 495 (EPO)	08/30/89
		EP 0 712 783 (EPO)	05/22/96
		EP 0 756 996 (EPO)	02/05/97
		EP 0 865 987 (EPO)	09/23/98
		EP 0 972 704 (EPO)	01/19/00
		EP 1 022 220 (EPO)	07/26/00
		EP 1 052 171 (EPO)	11/15/00

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.